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REPORT BY THE U.S.

General Accounting Office

Advocacy In National Endowment For The Humanities' Projects Funded By Five State Councils

In response to a congressional inquiry, GAO reviewed five state humanities councils—California, Florida, Idaho, Maryland, and Oregon. Out of about 700 projects funded by these state councils during fiscal years 1982 and 1983, 10 were judged by National Endowment for the Humanities' or state council officials to have raised concerns or questions about advocacy--the act or process of defending a particular point of view. NEH policy prohibits advocacy in projects it funds. Questions of advocacy are most often associated with public policy projects, but the very nature of these projects makes it difficult to entirely eliminate such questions.

This report also contains information about how the National Endowment for the Humanities and state councils review grant applications, how the membership of state councils is selected, and how questions of advocacy arose in five specific projects.



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MAY 20, 1985

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